

## Patent Claims

1. Method for the determination of adrenomedullin immunoreactivity in biological fluids for  
5 diagnostic purposes, characterized in that the midregional partial peptide (mid-proAM; SEQ ID NO:3) of proadrenomedullin which comprises the amino acids (45-92) of the complete preproadrenomedullin (pre-proAM; SEQ ID NO:1) is  
10 measured.
2. Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that the mid-proAM in the biological fluids is measured by means of an immunoassay which operates with at  
15 least one labelled antibody which specifically recognizes a sequence of mid-proAM.
3. Method according to Claim 2, characterized in that the immunoassay is an assay with a solid phase-  
20 bound competitor for the analyte and a labelled antibody (SPALT assay) or a sandwich assay (two-sided immunoassay), in which at least two antibodies which specifically bind to different partial sequences of mid-proAM (SEQ ID NO:3) are  
25 used.
4. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that circulating mid-proAM (SEQ ID NO:3) is determined and the biological  
30 fluid is a plasma.
5. Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that both antibodies bind to a region of mid-proAM

which extends from the amino acid 60 to the amino acid 94 of the pre-proAM.

- 5        6. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 5,  
characterized in that the antibody/antibodies  
is/are monoclonal and/or polyclonal.
- 10       7. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 6,  
characterized in that both antibodies are  
affinity-purified polyclonal antibodies.
- 15       8. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 7,  
characterized in that one of the antibodies is  
obtained by immunization of an animal with an  
antigen which contains a synthetic peptide  
sequence which comprises the amino acids 69-86 of  
pre-proAM (SEQ ID NO:4), and the other of the  
antibodies is obtained by immunization with an  
antigen which contains a synthetic peptide  
20       sequence which comprises the amino acids 83-94 of  
pre-proAM (SEQ ID NO:5).
- 25       9. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 8,  
characterized in that one of the antibodies is  
labelled and the other antibody is bound to a  
solid phase or can be bound selectively to a solid  
phase.
- 30       10. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 8,  
characterized in that both the first and the  
second antibody are present dispersed in the  
liquid reaction mixture and that a first labelling  
component which is part of a labelling system

S100B, S100A proteins, LASP-1, soluble cytokeratin fragments, in particular CYFRA 21, TPS and/or soluble cytokeratin-1 fragments (sCY1F), the peptides inflammin and CHP, other peptide prohormones, glycine-N-acyltransferase (GNAT), the carbamoylphosphate synthetase 1 (CPS 1) and the C-reactive protein (CRP) or fragments thereof.

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15. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 11, characterized in that it is used in the area of cardiac diagnosis.
  16. Method according to Claim 15, characterized in that it is carried out in the course of a multiparameter determination in which further parameters relevant for cardiac diagnosis are determined at the same time.
  17. Method according to any of Claims 1 to 11, characterized in that it is used in the area of cancer diagnosis.
  18. Method according to Claim 17, characterized in that it is carried out in the course of a multiparameter determination in which further parameters relevant for cancer diagnosis are determined at the same time.